

PIC/D-9-58
7 October 1958

MEMORANDUM FOR: Assistant to the DD/I (Admin)

SUBJECT: Requested Personnel Reduction Information

1. Pursuant to your request of 1 October 1958 for the position of the Photographic Intelligence Center concerning a possible [redacted] reduction in personnel strength, the following is offered for your consideration.

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2. Since the inception of Project HTAUTOMAT some three years ago, this activity unquestionably has been without the personnel necessary for appropriate exploitation of an ever increasing input of extremely valuable and unimpeachable intelligence information. All planning and direction during this period has been duly cognizant of limited personnel resources, and I believe you are well acquainted with our continuing effort to make maximum use of individuals assigned or indirectly available to us. Despite this effort, which incidentally has involved three internal reorganizations of intelligence production components and attendant programming since June of 1956, we have been steadily losing ground in our endeavor to remain reasonably abreast of priority workload requirements. Accordingly, any reduction in personnel under current circumstances would simply further restrict an intelligence production capability which is not now physically able to meet the demands placed upon it.

3. Insofar as the future is concerned, you may recall our discussion of 1 October at which time I advised you that the scope of the special collection media to which we are variously appended is about to expand quite rapidly and that key Center personnel are now engrossed in problems which attend the handling, processing and general exploitation of a new product. Today we cannot accurately predict the extent to which this new effort will dictate the redeployment of personnel and curtailment of the present work program. However, this or any other substantial workload addition will accentuate the obvious disparity between the scope of the collection effort and the potential of the exploitation capability. Accordingly, future planning can hardly envision a reduction in strength. On the contrary, the obvious implication is that the time is rapidly approaching when we will have to approach Mr. Amory with a request for additional personnel or policy

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guidance concerning a very positive restriction of high priority support requirements to be accepted by the Center.

4. In compliance with your instruction to identify positions and functions to be deleted under a [redacted] personnel reduction regardless of the stand taken by the component, the positions involved [redacted] would be taken from the Industrial Geographic Division. If the reduction was limited to [redacted] would be deleted from the Central Branch T/O. If the reduction were [redacted] would be deleted from the Central Branch T/O, [redacted] from the Asian USSR-China Branch, [redacted] from the European-USSR and Satellite Branch. It is not considered feasible to specify a truly functional deletion under present circumstances. With fewer personnel we would attempt to provide priority dictated support as in the past with perhaps some prejudice toward industrial and geographic type requirements. However, analytical personnel are frequently shifted in support of critical priority intelligence production so that basically the reduction would affect the overall intelligence production effort.

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5. Any further information or detail necessary for your review of circumstances involved in a personnel reduction of this activity will be furnished at your request.

[redacted]
Executive Officer

Photographic Intelligence Center

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